

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 14, 2008

Deputy Mayor Gregory Haddad called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Duffy (7:40 pm), Haddad, Koehn, Nesbitt (7:38 pm), Paulhus, Schaefer
Absent: Paterson

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2008 regular and special meetings as corrected. Motion passed with Ms. Blair abstaining. Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2008 special meeting. Motion passed with Ms. Koehn abstaining. Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2008 and April 2, 2008 special meetings. Motion passed with Ms. Blair abstaining.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Deputy Mayor Haddad requested a moment of silence in honor of the troops who have fallen victim to the conflicts in the Middle East.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, 54, Old Turnpike Road, urged the Council to direct the staff to remember the economic times when negotiating contracts. She also urged the addition of a second opportunity for the public to speak at all Council meetings. (Statement attached).

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to move Items 3 and 4 to the next orders of business. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Nesbitt seconded to add the Earth Day Proclamation as Item 11a under New Business.
Motion passed unanimously.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community/Campus Relations

Town Manager Matt Hart reported the University is close to identifying a new site for the compost facility and would like to hold a session for public comment at a future Council meeting. He also outlined a new Off-Campus Community Leaders Program designed to establish a network of students who live off-campus and who will be available to assist other off-campus students.

Mr. Clouette reported that numerous steps have been taken to ameliorate the

effects of Spring Weekend. The Town and Region 19 are presenting an alternative event to be held at the Community Center. The Dean's office has been in communication with area colleges and will report back to those colleges if their students get in trouble. Plans are in place to try to identify individuals who are coming into the area for unlawful purposes.

2. Community Water and Wastewater issues

Town Manager Matt Hart reported the UConn Water and Wastewater Policy Advisory Committee would be meeting to discuss the drought information. UConn will be scheduling a meeting with the neighbors of Agronomy Road. Mr. Hart will email the information to members.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

3. Mansfield Community Center: Review, Analysis and Recommendations

Town Manager Matt Hart introduced Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation and Steve Capezzone from the Enterprise Group. Mr. Hart noted the purpose of the study was to look at the Community Center from a private sector view and then to challenge the staff to review the proposals and to return to the Town Council with recommendations.

Mr. Capezzone stated the study reviewed the 2005 recommendations, approached the review of the Community Center as a for-profit multipurpose facility and looked for efficiencies and enhancements to improve the bottom line. Mr. Schafer presented a series of concerns with the report (attached), noting, however, that the report was beneficial. Ms. Koehn requested a list of the reports used in the analysis and an explanation of the methodology used. In response to a question from Mr. Nesbit, Mr. Capezzone stated that a net savings of \$50,000 to \$75,000 next fiscal year is realistic if about 50% of the recommendations are enacted. Members discussed a number of the recommendations, suggested a marketing/program effort aimed at UConn students, babies and tweeners, and discussed whether the current management system is an adequate model for the operation. Ms. Blair requested a definition of "student" to be used if the enhancements are approved. Curt Vincente will review and recommend a definition if that enhancement becomes part of the proposal.

The Council agreed to proceeding as recommended by the Town Manager.

4. Town Council Media Project

Jaime Russell, Director of Information Technology, presented the findings of the staff regarding the options, best practices, design, cost, and coordination of the proposed Council media project. The Town Manager requested guidance on how to proceed noting that there is \$25000 in the Manager's proposed budget for this year and an additional amount planned for the next year. Council members discussed the importance of public access to the Council's meeting and the associated cost.

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, the Mansfield Town Council will broadcast their meetings as soon as feasible.

Deputy Mayor Haddad moved to amend the resolution to include a referral to the

Communication Advisory Committee. Accepted as a friendly amendment, the motion to approve the resolution as amended passed unanimously.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded to recess as the Town Council and come to order as the Water Pollution Control Authority.
Motion passed by all.

5. WPCA, FY 2007/08 Willimantic Sewer Budget

Mr. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance Committee, moved, effective April 14, 2008, to adopt the Willimantic Sewer Budget for 2007/2008 as endorsed by the Finance Committee.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. WPCA, FY 2007/08 UConn Sewer Budget

Mr. Schaefer, Chair of the Finance Committee, moved, effective April 14, 2008, to adopt the UConn Sewer Budget for 2007/08 as endorsed by the Finance Committee.

Mr. Schaefer explained the increase in fees is largely due to the fact that UConn has been incorrectly measuring water usage. In an effort to promote water conservation, Ms. Koehn requested a review to see if UConn is legally responsible for installing individual water meters. The Town Manager will investigate.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to adjourn as the Water Pollution Control Authority and reconvene as the Town Council.
Motion passed unanimously.

7. Proposed Amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Land Use Fee Schedule

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Duffy seconded, to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 PM at the Town Council's regular meeting on April 28, 2008 to solicit public comment regarding the proposed April 1, 2008 draft revisions to the Town's fee schedule for various land use permits.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Historic Documents Preservation Grant

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Nesbitt seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, effective April 4, 2008, that Matthew W. Hart, Mansfield Town Manager, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this

municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

Resolved: That Mansfield hereby adopts as its policy to support the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under Connecticut General Statutes § 4a-60(a)(1) and § 4a-60a(a)(1), as amended in the State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142.

Motion passed unanimously.

9. Proclamation Designating Wednesday, April 16, 2008 as National Start! Walking Day in Mansfield

Ms. Koehn moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective April 14, 2008, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Designating Wednesday, April 16, 2008 as National Start! Walking Day in Mansfield.

(Attached)

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Proclamations Recognizing Senior and Youth Service Program Volunteers

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Duffy seconded, effective April 14, 2008, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Acknowledging the Volunteer Community of Mansfield Youth Services

(Attached)

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective April 14, 2008 to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Acknowledging Senior Center Volunteers

(Attached)

Motion passed unanimously

11. Proclamation in Support of Pay Equity

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Duffy seconded, effective April 14, 2008, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation in Support of Pay Equity.

(Attached)

Motion passed unanimously.

11a. Earth Day Proclamation

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to endorse the Earth Day Resolution as submitted. (Attached)

Motion passed unanimously.

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- VII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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- VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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Mr. Haddad reported the Personnel Committee would be meeting on May 8th to discuss the Rules of Procedure.

Mr. Clouette reported the University admitted that training and management practices were partly at fault of the paint in the brook.

Mr. Schaefer reported that the Finance Committee recommends that the Public Hearing scheduled for April 17th should be an opportunity for the Town Council to listen to the public's response to the Town Manager's proposed budget. At the Information Session on May 7th, however, the Finance Committee and Board of Education will present their approved budgets to the public.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Ms. Koehn announced some of the events scheduled for the Earth Day celebration on April 26th. These include music, a farmer's market, "green" cars, vendors and projects for the kids. She urged all to attend if possible.

Mr. Paulhus, Mr. Nesbitt, Deputy Mayor Haddad and Town Manager Matt Hart all attended the inauguration of the UConn President.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

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(Attached)

Mr. Clouette asked if it would be possible for the Council to vote on the vision points of the Strategic Plan prior to voting on the action points. The Town Manager will raise the issue at the next Strategic Planning Steering Committee Meeting.

Ms. Blair asked if citizens would be allowed to leave their Rid Litter bags along the side of the road for pickup. The Town Manager will check.

Mr. Paulhus noted that there is a Public Safety meeting scheduled for April 16th at 1:00 pm at the Bergin Correction Center.

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

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Ms. Blair requested a field trip to the Reynold's School be scheduled. Deputy Mayor suggested the Daycare be included in the tour.

Mr. Schaefer asked that the sight line coming out of Reynold's School be checked.

XII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

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- - 12. CCM re: Real Estate Conveyance Tax Bill Passes Finance
 - 13. Chronicle, "24 UConn Students Fall Ill After Banquet" - 4/2/08
 - 14. Chronicle, "Auditor Raises Red Flags With University" - 3/21/08
 - 15. Chronicle, "Conference to Look at Alternative Energy" - 3/28/08
 - 16. Chronicle, "Courtney Walks in Educators' Shoes" - 3/21/08
 - 17. Chronicle, "Fatal Crash Investigation Questioned" - 4/7/08
 - 18. Chronicle, "Input Sought on Next Mansfield School Chief" - 3/21/08
 - 19. Chronicle, "Mansfield Budget Gets Mixed Reviews" - 4/8/08
 - 20. Chronicle, "Mansfield Budget Plan Includes 1.91-Mill Hike" - 3/25/08
 - 21. Chronicle, "Norovirus ID'd in UConn Illnesses" - 4/4/08
 - 22. Chronicle, "Now That's a Ride to School" - 4/2/08
 - 23. Chronicle, "N.Y. Investor Buys East Brook" - 4/8/08
 - 24. Chronicle, "Public Preschool Programs Lead to Reduced Enrollments" - 4/5/08
 - 25. Chronicle, "Storrs Man Chosen to Serve on Museum Group" - 4/4/08
 - 26. Chronicle, "Students Prepare for the Trip of a Lifetime" - 3/25/08
 - 27. Chronicle, "UConn Ed School Ranked 21st in the U.S." - 4/1/08
 - 28. Chronicle, "UConn, DEP Probe Milky White Substance" - 4/2/08
 - 29. Chronicle, "University Has Lawyers Probing Financial Audit" - 4/7/08
 - 30. Department of Information Technology re: Free Wireless Internet Hotspot
 - 31. Metro Hartford Alliance re: Government Reception
 - 32. G. Padick re: Notice of 4/10 Scoping Meeting – Relocation of UConn Hazardous Waste Storage Building
 - 33. Planning and Zoning Application Referral – Windwood Acres
 - 34. Robinson & Cole re: Submission of Technical Information Concerning Proposal to Construct a Wireless Telecommunications Tower in the Town of Willington, Connecticut
 - 35. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services re: Connecticut Municipalities 2008 Special Funding Initiative
 - 36. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services re: Connecticut Senior Centers 2008 Special Funding Initiative
 - 37. S. Thomas re: Oppose the Lebanon Power Plant Project
 - 38. C. van Zelm re: Storrs Center Project Update
 - 39. N. Wyman re: Reappointment to the Municipal Finance Advisory Commission
- Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to move into Executive Session.
Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Present: Blair, Clouette, Duffy, Haddad, Koehn, Nesbitt, Paulhus, Schaefer
Also present: Matt Hart, Town Manager
Issue: Open Space Acquisition

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to come out of Executive Session.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Gregory Haddad, Deputy Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk